

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, February 9, 1864.

Previous to the 20th of May, 1861, there was much diversity of sentiment among the people of this State on the proper action to be taken. The three national parties, the success of either of which in the Presidential election would have postponed the necessity of action, had been defeated. The North had been swallowed up in one fatal sectional or sectional party, and the gradual subjection of the minority to its power and behest. The election of Lincoln consummated the success of this hostile and destructive influence. The foresight of some discerned immediately the awful and imperative obligation of withdrawing from this fatal power and influence. Others, after a short postponement, adopted with some reluctance the inevitable necessity; and others still, with a fond yearning towards the ancient institutions, refused to let them go. Since the Peace Congress at Washington, to avert the final doom. But all with one voice, the faithful act of James Buchanan, and the removal of Major Anderson to Fort Sumter, and the proclamation of Lincoln, all which had been the unseen but inexorable logic of events, brought up the crisis. The demand by Lincoln for North Carolina troops to fight Southern men on Southern soil, was responded to by Governor Ellis with a memorable refusal; and public sentiment rallied to a seemingly almost unanimous unanimity. On the 20th of May—that glorious anniversary of an ancient and cherished heritage—the Convention of the State, without division, by a unanimous vote, to which was added further and more binding pledges the solemn inscription of each individual name—on a parchment paper, but of enduring parchment, for then and thereafter to be a memorial of the common obligation—passed the ordinance of secession from the Federal Union, and adopted the Constitution of the Confederate States.

This imposing ceremony was enhanced in solemnity by the presence of the great names which illustrated its performance. There sat the venerable Chief Justice Ruffin, the profound jurist of the State, and the equal of any counterpart on the continent as an expounder of the common law. By his side was his brother, quite as distinguished as a legislator and advocate—the notes of whose immortal mind and powerful tongue still echo in the ears of the delighted audience who were once privileged to hang upon their utterances. Then sat the venerable in years, no less held in the public esteem, that pure and upright politician and useful citizen, Weldon N. Edwards. At his side sat the venerable and useful citizen, Weldon N. Edwards. At his side sat the venerable and useful citizen, Weldon N. Edwards. At his side sat the venerable and useful citizen, Weldon N. Edwards.

There were the daughters of North Carolina, fair and beautiful—lending their approval by enthusiastic utterance. "The organ of public opinion," whose editor was also one of the signers, expressed in the public records as a glorious celebration of independence and a slow and wisely performed—and for himself and these his associates, he faithfully promised that the act should be made good "with a last dollar and the last man."

This is an authentic history of secession in North Carolina. This is a faithful narrative of the great day, when the people of this State, by their representatives, met in the Convention of the State, and by their representatives, met in the Convention of the State, and by their representatives, met in the Convention of the State.

Thereafter the Standard became the organ of the war—the defender of the Administration—the chronicler of its virtues and its misdeeds, and the special eulogist of Mr. Davis. Under its patriotic teachings, animosities were fostered. When it said that "no negotiation could come from us," all acquiesced. When it intimated that "the South cannot make overtures, for she is fighting for existence, and any offer on her part to treat would be considered a sign of weakness and fear," its influential logic became the received opinion, and her citizens occurred in the ad, official sentiment, "that so long as there is a single enemy on our soil, just so long will we fight"—that, "if she were to offer less to her enemies, she would be unworthy of the spirit and candor of her people." These sentiments, transcribed from the Standard of 10th of August, 1861, became enduring convictions in the loyal hearts of the people—were caught up by our brave soldiers, and by them indelibly engraved with the bayonets upon the forehead of our foes.

Could it have been anticipated that the author of these noble sentiments—the tutor of these patriotic doctrines—would in two short years forsake all his own teachings—abandon official pledges—retract his outspoken praise, and substitute therefor censure, abuse, vituperation; discard for harmony; discourage for cheer; impracticable and impossible negotiation for victory; his mission for contest, and for hope despair? Alas, that we are called to wonder at such strange and wayward inconsistency. We ask ourselves in amazement, for the influence that has wrought this woful change. While we mourn the loss of a useful co-laborer, we pity the mind so strangely seduced into such perversion and folly.

But the people cannot follow this fickle light of the night. Evil spirits, ripe ever for mischief, may entice this new ally—honest but deluded men for a time may be misled; but the people, looking to the past, remembering what we have recorded, will detect the subtle Philip of today, and will appeal from him to the true Philip of yesterday. The honest people of North Carolina, ever justly renowned for fidelity, will not break their faith under such changeable and now pernicious counsel. Rather may we not hope that the scales may fall from the eyes of the Stand-

ard, and before it is too late, it may return to the principles it set out with. If it should, those who do not desire to cherish ill will, will rejoice at its escape. But if it remain inaccessible to reason, to entreaty, to deserved reproach, yet unwillingly bestowed, there is but one fate—the isolation—inexorable to those whom the public, pressed with dangers, is obliged to regard as an enemy.

Important Inquiry.

Since the public have understood that we are connected with the press, numerous inquiries pour in upon us, of what the Government would do with regard to the agitation of the Convention question now on foot in the State. We do not pretend to be informed of the purposes of either Government. That at Richmond has, we believe, no organ, and we do not know if Gov. Vance has, nor is it likely that either would commit to outsiders the policy it intends to pursue. But we are willing to give our individual opinion, for the benefit of all concerned.

The movement of the agitators is full of peril. The artful guile in which it is covered is as thin as gauze. The Government is not deaf to the warnings uttered, nor blind to the threatening aspect of affairs. The effort to conceal, will not hide the purpose of the agitators. It is known that they mean revolution. If they can drift over the dangerous rapids of the preliminary into the smooth waters of a Convention, they hope, under the form of a recognized authority, to consummate the secession of North Carolina from the Confederacy, and the purchase of a peace from Lincoln, by the sacrifice of the other States—by the violation of faith and honor, and by submission. Their fierce denunciation of our Government—their legislation to thwart its policy—the refusal of legislation to aid and assist it—the judicial "licks at it" in the facility for discharges from the military service—the threats and oaths repeated—not of remedy, but of ultimate and rightful, but of force and revolution, and following all this is the movement begun by which alone revolution can be accomplished—and the leakage of the weaker vessels. All this tells the tale—but like the veiled Prophet of Khorsass, the visage is not hid and the deformities are apparent. What will the Government do? Will it let the movement run to completion? No. If it would surrender the Confederacy, consign our rulers, our military leaders, all our chief men to sure destruction—our army to a mortifying abasement—our flag to dishonor—our property to confiscation—our wives and daughters to servitude low and ignominious—our homes to desolation and ourselves to a degrading servitude under the brutal rule of Yankee meanness, mixed with impudent audacity, if the Government will suffer these things, then this agitation will be left alone, to pursue its course.

But if President Davis, and Governor Vance, and our Congress, and Lee, and Johnston, and Beauregard, and our military officers and soldiers have a stake, and they feel it, upon our success, then agitation will be obliged to stop. How? It may readily be perceived, how that difficulty may exist as to which Government should move first—whether one assumes to act alone or both in concert—whether it were better to crush the eggs or let them hatch, that the nature of the brood may be discovered—that the geese, and other harmless fowl may be separated from the cacklers.

These difficulties, however, will not be long of settlement; and our opinion is, that the arm that has for long been stayed in forbearance, is about to fall. When it does fall, its hand will grasp the leaders in an iron clutch tighter than a vice. No matter whether they be found within the bar, or presiding on the bench, or sitting among the audience in the Sanhedrin of agitation. If martial law be established in North Carolina—if the *habeas corpus* be suspended—if a military force be placed in our midst—if the leading agitators be arrested and punished, some by death, others by banishment, others by forced enlistment in the front of our service—if the necessary inconveniences of this kind of rule be obliged to be substituted for the mild sway of the civil law, the responsibility will be on the head of agitators who teach that "our Government is a despotism" to be resisted—that "forbearance towards it is no longer a virtue"—that North Carolina is the "key-stone to be withdrawn from its arch," that the "arch may tumble"—the responsibility will be on those officials who are suspected of undue sympathy with skulkers and deserters and who place impediments in the way of the service by imposing unnecessary restraints upon its officers.

Towards these responsible agitators the public mind will be directed justly and properly; and upon them will the hand of Government be necessarily laid.

No protection can be taken under the shield of free speech and press. The freedom of speech and press do not comport with that devilish license which in time of war hazards the National existence.

We learn that among the Yankee prisoners taken below Kinston last week, there were forty-five deserters from Netherland's Battalion. They were in full Yankee uniform, and will of course suffer the penalty so eminently due the base crime of desertion to the enemy. One deserter from the 8th Regiment caught in Yankee uniform, was shot on Thursday last, with several others.

The Progress in noticing the appearance of the North Carolinian at Fayetteville, says: "A newspaper that will reflect the sentiments of the people of that section is much needed in Fayetteville, and we congratulate them in their good fortune and urge them to sustain the enterprise."

Do not the Fayetteville Observer and N. C. Presbyterian "reflect the sentiments of the people of that town and section? What say the people of Fayetteville to the insinuation that they do not? They are true to the South and the State. Is the Carolinian to reflect opposite sentiments? What says the Carolinian?

Mr. Reade's Speech.

We recur to Mr. Reade's speech again, because it is deserving of a more extended notice. We are still of opinion, that the resolution of thanks came very inappropriately from Mr. Reade, if it be true that he is one of the leaders of the Convention movement. But the speech itself is obnoxious to censure. It was a fine occasion for Mr. Reade to have done justice to the State—to have paid the right compliment to her soldiers in the true tone, and have reflected honor on himself. It was his own fault that he contented himself with excusing petty complaints, and insinuating a defence of a broader defection. When Mr. Reade uttered the truism that "it is spirit that moves an army and makes it irresistible," we imagine his embarrassment at the additional reflection, that spirit is engendered and kept alive by a warm-hearted display of home encouragement, and is soon broken when that encouragement is withheld, and that how little he and his associates had contributed of this comforting and animating influence.

It was hardly fair in Mr. Reade to connect the soldier in any wise with the rumors of disloyalty in North Carolina. Those rumors grow out of no action of theirs, nor do they touch the State at large. In the language of a contemporary in another State, "a broad line of distinction is taken between the good and the bad—the true and the false—and it is well remembered that the majority of hearts in the State beat true to the cause."

Mr. Reade well knew those who are designated in these suspicions, and he has had it in his power to have done much towards effacing them. "The little he had done previously, is not much enhanced by his Senatorial effort."

Mr. Reade urges three causes of excuse for the disaffection in the State, as he is pleased to call it. 1st. That early in the war the arms of the people were demanded—that this made the impression, not unreasonably, that the purpose was to disarm her because she was suspected. 2nd. This will be news in North Carolina, when thirty-seven thousand stand of arms was lavished at one time from our captured arsenal. The people of North Carolina were well informed enough to know, that early in the war the Confederate Government needed all kinds of arms, and made no call on her that was not made on other States. A fitting answer to this accusation, is the resolutions passed unanimously in November, 1862, by the Legislature—yielding "full confidence in the ability and patriotism of President Davis; and that other resolution of Dr. Grissom, one of Mr. Reade's peculiar friends, in which was pledged the full support of the State to the "struggle, till the entire independence of the Confederate States is secured." If that pledge had been redeemed by Mr. Reade's associates, his speech could never have been made.

The second accusation against the Government is, that the Judiciary of the State has not been respected. It is as sad a truth, that many of the best men in North Carolina had in diminished respect that portion of a Judiciary whose facile disposition towards the unworthy deserter has kept pace with an annoying and injurious hindrance of the faithful officer in the discharge of his duty. But no accuser can cite an instance where the Government has slighted the Judiciary decisions of North Carolina when they came to be known—nor an instance where intentional wrong has been perpetrated on one of her citizens. The leniency of the Government should have disarmed these accusations, if it inspired no gratitude.

If suspicion, distrust and threat, on the part of the authorities "chafe" the State, in what degree does Mr. Reade think the Government is "chafed," when all the "suspicions, distrust and threats" have originated in North Carolina; and been heaped on it, and are now daily being heaped in the most flagrant and seditious manner? Mr. Reade professes to know nothing of the movement for a Convention except what is before the public. If this is candid, rumor has done him injustice; for it ascribes to him the defence of this movement in the caucus referred to. Of its danger, Mr. Reade cannot be ignorant; and an enlightened Senator in his place might have well seen, that the public enemy is building much hope upon this movement, and has raised his voice to avert the evil. But Mr. Reade, in comparing it to the glorious convention of revolutionary record, does not exalt the former, but levels the latter. There is no point of comparison between the two. "The one was prompted by noble and elevated sentiment; the other is the offspring, at best, of low discontent. The one moved in support of the contest for independence; the other stifles it. The one gave assurance to the enemy of firm and obstinate resistance; the other speaks in whining terms of olive branches and negotiation. The one enrolled upon its records the loyal and true patriots; the other inscribes the names of deluded people led by political agitators. The one observed fidelity to the allies—the other threatens desertion. The one bore the State to honor; the other carries it to infamy. In every feature they are dissimilar, and there is no point of analogy."

If Mr. Reade's speech is a jest, it was ill-timed; if in earnest, then the only excuse for it is to be found in the fact, that Mr. Reade has resided in the town of Roxboro', remote from the incidents of war and out of reach of intelligence of the leading features. On the bench Mr. Reade will occupy a more fitting position. A gentleman of great propriety of character, patient and dignified, of impartial mind and of sound legal intelligence, he will adorn the judicial eminence; and more so, settled in the far West, he will not be much brought in contact with those questions which involve the political prejudices to interfere with the judicial judgment.

The Telegraph is completed between Raleigh and Fayetteville, and messages passed over the wires for the first time last evening. We congratulate the old Town on again being brought into communication with the Telegraphic world.

WIRE ADAMS AT WORK.—It is reported that Gen. Wm. Adams captured on the 22d inst., at Selisworth, near Natchez, thirty-five prisoners and six wagons and teams loaded with cotton going to Natchez, and about eighty negroes.

LI. PERKINS, of the 31st N. C. Regiment, was killed in the recent fight at Smithfield, Va. His remains have been brought home for interment.

In the Yankee Senate, on the 28th ult., Messrs. Bayard, of Delaware, and Richardson, of Illinois, took the oath required by the resolution adopted the day previous. Subsequently, Mr. Bayard resigned his seat in the Senate.

North Carolina News.

We find in the Richmond papers of Friday last, the following official despatches:

WASHINGTON, February 4.
To General S. Cooper:
On the 2d instant, Gen. Martin, with the 17th and 42d, and Col. Jackson's command from Knoxville, broke the railroad at Shepherdsville, driving the enemy from their works at Newport Barracks and across Newport river.

The following official despatch from Commander Wood, gives the particulars of the destruction of the gunboat mentioned in the despatch of Gen. Pickett:

KINSTON, Feb. 4, 1864.
Hon. S. R. Mallory:
The force under my command boarded and captured, last night, the United States gunboat Underwriter, four guns, and ninety men and arms.

Her position was within musket range of several strong-works; one of which was raking the vessel during the time we had possession, and her not having steam up caused me to burn her.

Our loss is twenty killed and wounded, and four missing; the enemy's unknown.

J. TAYLOR WOOD.
The following letter from Maj. Gen. Rodas, is addressed to Brig. Gen. Ramseur and Johnston:

BRIG. GEN. RAMSEUR AND JOHNSTON:
Generals.—It is my pride to have been associated with your two brigades, as comrade or commander, from the bloody field of Williamsburg, through all the trials of this arduous war, up to the present moment. I claim, in both capacities, the privilege of offering my heartiest congratulations on learning that, rising superior to domestic faction and to present hardships, they have stepped forward, almost as a man, as the pioneers of re-enlistment for your State.

The name of North Carolina, impressed on the heart of the people amidst the fire and blood of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg by your respective commands, has been indelibly engraved in the hearts of the people, and the people of the South, ever heard of it, the fear being that they would readily accept it. It is believed that a large majority of the people, if left to themselves, would lay down their arms and accept the terms proposed.

The Union sentiment is growing very strong in North Carolina. The people of Raleigh frequently refuse to let Confederate soldiers pass through their city, on their way to Virginia.

"All the worst that has ever been predicted of the rebellion is now taking place in the unfortunate section of country subjected to its control."

[Such is the miserable stuff with which the Yankees fire the engines and inflame the passions of their hireling soldiery.—Ex.]

Another of Beasi Butler's Orders.
We are indebted to a friend for a copy of the "Old Dominion," a Yankee paper published in Norfolk. In it we find the following order of Beasi Butler, which may prove interesting to persons desiring to get through our lines on their way to Yankee doan:

HEADQUARTERS 18TH ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT OF VA., AND N. C.,
Fort Monroe, Va., Jan. 24, 1864.

General Orders No. 12.
Inasmuch as the rebels of the Confederate States are now in the habit of circulating through the lines of this Department, and retaining by law, all able-bodied male persons, it is ordered:

1.—That no white women or children will be permitted to come through the lines, without a pass from the military headquarters, or the headquarters of the Army of North Carolina.

2.—All able-bodied men will be received, detained until reported to these Headquarters, or the headquarters of the District and Army of North Carolina, and orders are given concerning them.

3.—Nothing in this order shall be construed in conflict with General Order No. 46, relating to colored persons.

By command of Major General Butler.
R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

In connection with the above, a *hospitable* greeting from the "Beast," to those who desire to shrink duty and realize ill-gotten gains, we commend the following, which we extract from an article in the Richmond *Enquirer*, of yesterday, on the subject of "Yankee Prison Life."

Here are three specimens from Petersburg, arrived at Fort Norfolk—two brothers, Davis, and a fellow named Myers. On arriving at Norfolk they deposited in the Express office, for transmission to New York, some ten thousand dollars in greenbacks, six or seven thousand in gold, and the balance in small change. Butler's nose is too keen to miss such a fish trail. The transfer from the Express office to his coffers was effected with the facility a long practice ensures. They may pace their narrow passage in the agony of their bereavement, that their long journeyed money, and with their fishy eyes gaze longingly in the direction of Old Point, where Butler is clicking their coin and admiring the brilliancy of their diamonds. They designed going to New York most probably for the purpose of shipping Yankee notions to the States. They are likely to remain in prison until Butler has spent their plunder. The meantime they may spend lamenting their hard fate and wishing themselves safely back in Dixie. Miserable devils, let them fry in their own grease.

A DECLARATION OF PEACE.—In the Yankee House of Representatives, on the 25th ult., Hon. Fernando Wood delivered a speech in opposition to a resolution explanatory of the confiscation act. His concluding remarks are reported as follows: "The only hope of restoration. Peace is the only hope of restoration. It is waste to talk of the policies of the war. It made no difference what were the policies. The result would be the subversion of republican institutions, and utter destruction. He was opposed to the conduct of the South, but was equally opposed to the conduct of the North, under the Republican policy. Both were for dissolution. Let us, therefore, attempt a peaceable solution of the difficulty. Peace must come sooner or later. Why not procure it before both sections were exhausted and all their material interests destroyed? Mr. Wood appealed earnestly to the boasted spirit of Christian civilization of progress and of common humanity to throw itself into the arena and save the American people."

BE UP AND DOING.—It has been asked where are the men of oratorical ability in this crisis? Where are the men who, when there are election contests on hand, are found in every locality to enter the field for personal ends, and are now mute? Their accents are heard at every political gathering. Their voices swell into loud tones of denunciation and mutual reproach at every barbed and stump theatre of political eloquence. Why are they mute now, when oratory could do such good? Is the voice of Georgia's sons stifled, so rich in natural eloquence. Awake, ye men of might, in the fields of oratorical glory! Here are laurels to be gathered, and the highest flights of genius and the sublimest efforts.—*Atlanta Intelligence*.

A Western paper annoyed by the periphrastic "African citizens of African descent," offers "unbleached Americans," as a shorter and more expressive term.

Yankee Lies of the South.

The Northern papers are filled with the most infamous lies of the South—all having the same drift: that "the backbones of the rebellion are broken, and the days of the Southern Confederacy are numbered." No doubt this is a very pleasing delusion to the Yankees. We give, as a sample, a few of their stories we find in their late papers, omitting the surplusage of language in which they are dressed up:

"Broad riots occur almost daily in the South."
"General Beauregard has expressed the opinion that he cannot hold Charleston much longer."

"On the 21st of January, doing duty at Charleston, he intended to desert, but was prevented by one of them giving information. Twenty of the ringleaders were shot, and the rest were divided up among the other regiments."

"Mutiny is rife in the rebel army. The Thirteenth Virginia regiment was ordered to Alabama, but refused to go, and were disbanded and used in filling up other regiments as he only plan to avoid mutiny."

"General Early's expedition was a miserable failure. More than a thousand of his veterans returned with their hands and feet frozen."

"Vicious and licentiousness hold high carnival at the capital of King Jeff, though Jeff himself attends St. Paul's church every Sunday."

"Richmond, once the prettiest city in the Union, is but the shadow of what it was once, and is forever ruined. Pickpockets, burglars, thieves, and all the vilest and gaudiest characters, are beyond all precedent, and the whole city swarms with dissolute characters."

"Jeff Davis is very unpopular, and Union men are very numerous in the rebel capital."

"Lincoln's amnesty proclamation had but a very meagre circulation. But few of the people of the South ever heard of it, the fear being that they would readily accept it. It is believed that a large majority of the people, if left to themselves, would lay down their arms and accept the terms proposed."

"The Union sentiment is growing very strong in North Carolina. The people of Raleigh frequently refuse to let Confederate soldiers pass through their city, on their way to Virginia."

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TELEGRAPHIC.

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.
Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1863, by J. S. THAMMER, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

Confederate States Congress.
RICHMOND, Jan. 5.
In the Senate to-day the House bill to increase the efficiency of the army by the employment of negroes in certain capacities, was reported upon favorably by the Senate Military Committee, and placed on the calendar.

The general appropriation bill was amended and passed.—One amendment proposed that no salary be paid any officer appointed under Provisional Government unless he has been re-appointed and confirmed since by the permanent Government; but at the solicitation of several Senators it was withdrawn. The bill exempting farmers and planters who furnished substitutes, was on motion taken up from the table—yeas 14, nays 8, and made the special order for Tuesday next at 1 o'clock.

In the House, evidence was submitted of the re-enlistment of large numbers of troops from various States, and resolutions of thanks adopted.

The Senate bill to organize a general staff for the army, was discussed but not disposed of. Both Houses in secret session most of the day. It is understood that the House Judiciary Committee in secret session last night, reported a bill authorizing the President to suspend the Habeas Corpus, which is now under consideration in secret session in that body.

The tax bill is now under consideration in secret session in the Senate.

In the House to-day the Senate bill to provide for the organization of the general staff, was taken up and postponed indefinitely—yeas 31, nays 20.

The bill passed to pay any private or inferior officer who under orders of a superior officer performs temporary staff duty.

The Military Committee reported favorably and recommended the passage of a bill to repeal the law relative to property destroyed under military necessity, and provides for the payment for same out of the appropriation fund. A lengthy debate ensued on the motion it was postponed indefinitely—yeas 51, nays 16.

A bill to authorize the President to appoint a chief Quartermaster and Commissary with the rank of Colonel in each army; the rank of Lieutenant in each army corps, and the rank of Major in each division, was taken up and rejected—yeas 33, nays 24.

From Tennessee.
MEMPHIS, Feb. 5.
Private W. H. Roberts, of Company A, 21st Mississippi Regiment, Humphrey's brigade, was shot to-day for deserting his regiment to join a cavalry regiment.

The trains are now running to Rogersville Junction. We have nothing of interest to report from the front.

MEMPHIS, Feb. 6.
Private George Smith, company A, 43d Alabama Volunteers, was sent here to-day for desertion. Major Giltner's brigade made a dash upon the enemy's outpost on Thursday and captured 11 prisoners and killed 8.

Trains now run to this point.

From Charleston.
CHARLESTON, Feb. 5.
The enemy keep up an occasional fire on Sumter. Six shots were fired yesterday morning, and three last night—the former striking the Fort, and the latter exploding overhead. Eight shots were fired at the city to-day. The enemy's batteries and monitors have kept up a slow fire on the wreck of the Presto—the monitors fired 11 and 15-inch shells.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 6.
Eighty-five shots fired at the city to-day. No firing at Sumter. The enemy has been at work all day hauling ammunition to Gregg and Cumming's Point batteries.

There has been a large fire on Folly Island to-day, supposed to be the burning of the Yankee Hospital.

A gunboat in Edisto river is lying high and dry; it is believed she will be destroyed.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 7.
The enemy have ceased firing on the city, but continue working on their batteries and hauling ammunition. Nothing else of interest.

From Mobile.
MOBILE, Feb. 4.
A special despatch to the Evening News from Oklawaha, says there is no sign of the enemy in Northern Mississippi or West Tennessee, only in Memphis and Germantown the Yankee programme of advancing from Vicksburg into central Alabama necessitating an abandonment of Mobile.

Our forces occupy Corinth and Jackson. The enemy destroyed everything and carried off the stock of farming implements and the household furniture. Many families have to go to Memphis or suffer the destruction of everything.

The strong cavalry force which crossed Big Black yesterday or the day before, was not by Jackson's cavalry, when a lively fight ensued. There will perhaps be a general advance.

MOBILE, Feb. 5.
A special despatch to the Evening News, dated Clinton, 4th, says, Sherman, with two corps under McPherson and Hurlbert, is advancing. Gen. Jackson has fought them all day. They made but two miles to-day. They camp to night six or eight miles below Clinton. Prisoners report that they are thirty thousand strong. Gen. Ross whipped them on the Yazoo yesterday hand to hand with pistols.

A special despatch to the Register and Advertiser, dated Jackson the 4th, says the enemy commenced crossing the Big Black on yesterday, and threw over six regiments of infantry, two of cavalry, and two batteries. The railroad Friday was attempted to be crossed by messengers, but failed. They are now attempting to cross at Birdsong's. The city is full of rumors and excitement. All are confident.

From Gen. Lee's Army.
ORANGE, C. H., Feb. 5.
Kinchen, of Prince William cavalry, sent in a batch of prisoners captured near Kettle Run, in Potomac country, on Sunday last. They belonged to the 5th corps and report everything quiet in their lines.

Our scouts report that the enemy are granting furloughs quite liberally to re-enlisted men.

RICHMOND, Feb. 6, via Orange C. H.
To Gen. S. COOPER: On the 30th ult., General Rosser captured a train of 93 wagons loaded with commissary stores and foraged on their way from New Creek to Petersburg, also 300 mules and 20 prisoners. The guard of 800 infantry escaped to the mountains. Our loss 250 killed and wounded. Information of an advance upon Petersburg having been received, the garrison was evacuated during the night. On the 2d, Rosser destroyed the bridges over Patterson's Creek and captured 400 prisoners. Two hundred and seventy prisoners, 50 wagons and teams, 1,200 cattle, and 500 sheep have been brought off. Gen. Rosser has shown great energy and skill, and his command deserves great credit.

(Signed)
R. E. LEE.
ORANGE, C. H., Feb. 7.

The enemy crossed in large force on Saturday at Morton's ford, but after a sharp contest were repulsed by General Edward Johnson's division.

and driven across the river and pursued. Our troops returned this morning. The enemy attempted to cross at Barnett's ford, but were repulsed by Gen. Steele's N. C. brigade and General Lomax's cavalry brigade. Casualties slight. The enemy have returned.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]
ORANGE, C. H., Feb. 8th.
One Captain and 39 privates captured at Barnett's Ford by Gen. Early's division was brought in this morning.

The enemy crossed at Barnett's Ford early this morning but soon re-crossed again.

From Richmond.
RICHMOND, Feb. 7.
It is reported that the Yankees are advancing in considerable force towards the city from the Potomac. Heavy firing heard this morning in the direction of Bottom's bridge. No particulars received.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]
RICHMOND, Feb. 8.
The information from below is meagre and conflicting. The force of the enemy is estimated at about five regiments. One report is that they were repulsed; another, that they crossed the Chickahominy near White Oak Swamp. No apprehension exists here

WEDNESDAY, February 9, 1864

GEN. McCLELLAN.—No better illustration could be given of the fickleness and worthlessness of Yankee public opinion than the besotted flattery with which the Young Napoleon was regarded throughout the United States, and the utter contempt into which he has now fallen. His elaborate defence of his conduct only provokes the jeers and sarcasms those who but yesterday were loudest in praise and worshipped him as a demigod. Unfortunate McClellan! Ridiculous Yankee Nation!

GEN. HUMPHREY MARSHALL.—The Chattanooga Rebel says: "Gen. Humphrey Marshall a candidate for Congress from the State of Kentucky. As he weighs about five hundred pounds, the presumption is, that if elected, he will be able to fill his seat. He is much better qualified for Congress than for Light Infantry."

The rumor that Suffolk was being again occupied by Yankee troops, is, we are assured, wholly without foundation. A gentleman who was there Tuesday, states that there is not a Yankee soldier, white or black, in the place.

If the ant gives an example of industry, it is much more than a good many ripplers do.

changed, immediately re-entered the service, his devotion to which he has sealed with his life's blood.—*Peterburg Register.*

See Sale of Negroes at Franklinton to-morrow, on the arrival of the cars from Raleigh.

The Editor of the Standard was a member of the Convention which thus "seceded," and voted for the Ordinance of secession. I do not believe in the right of secession—did not "maintain" that right,—when he so votes. If we may believe the Standard of the

the Northern Lakes, and Massachusetts would serve in Louisiana. Thus each the country would be held by allies, and any outbreak could be easily crushed.

